

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development

For Immediate Release March 19, 2015 Contact: Amanda Pearson Public Relations Director, DHCD (804) 371-7006 amanda.peason@dhcd.virginia.gov

Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development announces Virginia Main Street Milestone Achievement Awards

- Virginia communities recognized for downtown revitalization efforts -

RICHMOND – The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development announced today the Virginia Main Street Program Milestone Achievement Awards to designated Virginia Main Street communities. The awards were presented at a dinner in Richmond that also celebrated the 30th anniversary of the Virginia program.

"The Virginia Main Street program is a vital part of building a new Virginia economy," said Secretary of Commerce and Trade Maurice Jones. "The work throughout the 25 Virginia Main Street communities and the many affiliates has created sustainable and vibrant downtowns that make Virginia communities a great place to live, work, play and do business."

Main Street communities and organizations were recognized for achieving notable milestones in volunteer contribution, private investment and building rehabilitation. Secretary of Commerce and Trade Maurice Jones served as keynote speaker for the event.

"In the last five years, designated Main Street communities have sparked more than \$148 million in private investment in their districts," said Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development Director Bill Shelton. "As a result, last year, there was a net collective gain of 607 jobs across the 25 Main Street downtown districts."

Below is a list of award recipients:

Volunteerism Milestone Achievement Awards *1,000 Volunteer Hours*

Ashland Main Street Association Fredericksburg Virginia Main Street Inc. Hopewell Downtown Partnership

5,000 Volunteer Hours

Believe in Bristol

10,000 Volunteer Hours
Farmville Downtown Partnership

20,000 Volunteer Hours

Altavista On Track

35,000 Volunteer Hours

Culpeper Renaissance Inc.
Martinsville Uptown Revitalization Association

50,000 Volunteer Hours

The Partnership for Warrenton Foundation

55,000 Volunteer Hours

Downtown Franklin Association

60,000 Volunteer Hours

Historic Manassas Inc.

90,000 Volunteer Hours

Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance

100,000 Volunteer Hours

Lynch's Landing Foundation

110,000 Volunteer Hours

Staunton Downtown Development Association

Private Investment Milestone Achievement Awards \$1 Million in Private Investment

Believe in Bristol and the city of Bristol Downtown Farmville and the town of Farmville

\$25 Million in Private Investment

Martinsville Uptown Revitalization Association and the city of Martinsville

\$35 Million in Private Investment

Destination Downtown South Boston and the town of South Boston The Partnership for Warrenton Foundation and the town of Warrenton

\$60 Million in Private Investment

Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance and the city of Harrisonburg

\$120 Million in Private Investment

Lynch's Landing Foundation and the city of Lynchburg Winchester Old Town Development Board and the city of Winchester

Building Improvement Milestone Achievement Awards 250 Building Projects

Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance and the city of Harrisonburg

500 Building Projects

Bedford Main Street and the town of Bedford Winchester Old Town Development Board and the city of Winchester The Virginia Main Street program, managed by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, provides assistance and training to help communities increase the economic vitality of their downtown commercial districts. Virginia Main Street uses the National Main Street model to help communities revitalize their downtowns by focusing on their unique heritage and attributes. The program helps communities implement a comprehensive revitalization strategy that creates economic growth and pride in downtowns.

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